

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

SUBJECT New Appointments of Military District Commanders

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. New commanders have been appointed for the military districts in the Northwest Military Area. The present commanders are:

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- a. LIU Chia-hsien (劉金軒), former commander of the Southern Shensi Military District, has been appointed commander of the Shensi Military District.
- b. HSU Kuo-chen (徐國珍), formerly deputy commander of the Kansu Military District, has been appointed acting commander of the Kansu Military District.
- c. MA Chun-ching (馬惇靖), formerly commander of the Independent 2 Army, has been appointed commander of the Ninghsia Military District.
- d. HO Ping-yen (賀炳炎), formerly commander of an army in the 2 Army Group, has been appointed commander of the Tsinghai Military District.
- e. WANG Chen (王震), formerly commander of the 1 Army Group, has been appointed commander of the Sinkiang Military District.

2. [redacted] information which indicates the following:

- a. YANG Te-chih (楊德志) was the former commander of the Shensi Military District; HSU Kuang-ta (許光達) was the former commander of the Kansu Military District; P'AN Tzu-li (潘自立) was the former commander of the Ninghsia Military District; HO previously held the post of Tsinghai Military District commander; and P'ENG Te-huai was formerly commander of the Northwest Military Area.

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b. MA Chun-ching was commander of the Nationalist 81 Army who surrendered to the Chinese Communists in Hinghsia in September 1949. His army was re-organized as the Chinese Communist 2 Independent Army of the Northwest Military Area on 19 December 1949. He is the first person not of the Chinese Communist Party, to our knowledge, whom the Chinese Communists have appointed as Military District Commander.

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1. Comment. According to information available to this office, HO Ping-yen was commander of the 1 Army, 1 Army Group, 1 Field Army.

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